Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984

1527. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984 is pending enforcement for the past over a year due to opposition from certain quarters;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove the cause of resentment;

(c) whether it is a fact that any demand has been made for enforcement of certain non-controversial sections of the amended act;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not enforcing those sections; and

(e) whether some State Governments have demanded enforcement of the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The question of enforcement of the provisions of Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1984 is still under consideration. Section 1(2) of the Act provides that the Act shall come into force in a State on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint, and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of the Act and for different States or for different areas within a State. The matter relating to enforcement of the Act was initially taken up with all the States by a letter addressed to all the Chief Secretaries. They were also requestd to take preparatory steps and be in readiness for enforcement of the Act and the different provisions. Replies have been received from some States indicating readiness to have the Act extended; some States are yet to indicate a clear date or their willingness to have the Act extended within a specified date. In the meanwhile Government have received several representations from the members of minority community expressing concern over some of thereof provisions contained in the Act. All these issues having a bearing on the enforcement of the Act are under consideration.

(c) **Yes, Sir.**

(d) Decision on this is also related to the matters referred to at (a) and (b) above.

(e) The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tripura have indicated their agreement to have the Act extended to those States.

Delay in the completion of Rihand Super Thermal Power Project

1528. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that completion of 1000 MW Rihand Super Thermal power project is considerably behind the schedule;

(b) if so when the project is now likely to be completed and commissioned as against the original schedule of completion;

(c) what are the main constraints in the completion of the project; and

(d) what measures have been taken by the Government to ensure its completion according to the revised schedule to avoid further cost escalation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) As per the Schedule approved by the Government of India in 1982, the first Unit of the Rihand Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) Stage-I is scheduled to be commissioned in June 1987. According to an assessment made in August 1985, the best achieveable date for commissioning of Unit-I is April, 1988.

(c) and (d) M|s. Northern Engineering Industries (NEI) of the U.K. are the main contractors for supply and erection of equipment for the Rihand STPP Stage-I which is being executed with British assistance. In order to meet their contractual obligations, the NEI have to develop proper Project Engineering and Management arrangements. Review Meetings were held between the National Thermal